

Dear Commissioners:

Stop hidden phone fees so I can truly compare prices of phone services. I support the petition filed by the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates and endorsed by other consumer advocacy organizations. CG Docket No. 04-208, Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Truth-In-Billing and Billing Format, is long overdue.

Phone bills should be truthful and easy to understand. The question is not so much "hidden charges" as much as why so much on charges. I have two phone lines in my home and am req. to pay the 911 cost and other costs on all phones. Plus a cell phone that also has the same charges. it seems one charge in a 4 room house with two phones is enough.

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or someone who needed 911 could get to a phone with extensions all over in addition. The charges for all this on a retired fixed income DAV is unfair and totally uncalled for (pun intended). How about giving all of us, including the seniors a break on charges. Every food item, clothing item, shelter, gas and all other charges are rising.
What are we as Americans to do with all prices rising, especially something as necessary as a phone.

Because this practice is tolerated by the FCC, long distance and wireless phone companies are able to hide the true cost of service. These add-ons make the advertised price of service significantly less than the amount of the check I have to write each month to pay the bill. Competition will not work if consumers cannot accurately compare prices when shopping for service.

Many states are stepping up to address this problem. They should be allowed to proceed. However, the FCC shouldn't shirk its responsibility, nor limit states from doing more.

The FCC should immediately grant the NASUCA petition to investigate billing practices, and prohibit phone and wireless companies from imposing separate monthly fees, line items or surcharges unless expressly mandated by law or the charge is expressly authorized by a governmental authority.